



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

Web Posting Date: 04/07/06

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes. The Administrator has received a complete application for the renewal and modification of groundwater discharge permit NEV00026 from the following applicant:

Tonopah Public Utilities (TPU)

P. O. Box151

Tonopah, Nye County, NV 89049

TPU operates the Tonopah Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), which is located approximately 1.75 miles NW of the town of Tonopah, Nye County, Nevada. The facility is located in Esmeralda County, Nevada. Domestic (sanitary) wastewater from residential and commercial sources is treated in twin Imhoff tanks, and effluent is discharged to ten (10) rapid infiltration basins (RIBs). TPU has submitted plans and has been granted approval for the construction of a new facility, which will utilize the Advanced Integrated Wastewater Pond System (AIWPS) method of wastewater treatment (primary anaerobic treatment with secondary aerobic treatment and discharge of secondary treated effluent to eight (8) existing RIBs). The renewed and modified permit will cover operation of the current facility during construction of the AIWPS, and operation of the AIWPS when construction is complete. The facility is requesting permitted flow of 499,000 gallons wastewater per day. The Division has made the tentative determination to renew the groundwater discharge permit for a period of five (5) years, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance, or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control, should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the date of newspaper publication, hand-delivered or postmarked no later than 5:00 P.M. on

May 15, 2006, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Division of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Water Pollution Control

901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 4001

Carson City, NV 89701-5249

Comments and/or hearing requests received via facsimile or e-mail before 5:00 P.M.

May 15, 2006 will also be accepted. All requests for hearings must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reason(s) why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day comment period will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a

public hearing. The public notice of such hearings will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the public hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Janine Hartley, Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9458, or at jhartley@ndep.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. This notice and the Fact Sheet for this facility are also available on the NDEP website at www.ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.